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SECURITY INFORMATION

REPORT

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COUNTRY USSR/Austria (Soviet Zone)

DATE DISTR. *20 Oct. 53*

SUBJECT 1. Induction into the Soviet Army
and Transfer to Austria
2. Reserve Officers Called to Active Duty
3. Labor Service

NO. OF PAGES 6

PLACE
ACQUIREDNO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)DATE
ACQUIRED BSUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

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DATE OF INF

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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A. Mobilization

1. Mobilization of 1928 and 1929 Classes

a.

registration at the draft board (voyenkomat).

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- (1) The Glukhov N 51-41, E 33-557, USSR, draft board notified the village council (Soviet) of Slout N 51-45, E 33-487 to report on the following day for a physical examination at the draft board in Glukhov. 25X1

- (2) [redacted] reported, as directed, on the following day at 1000 hours [redacted] 100 [redacted] inductees from the surrounding area.

- (3) Upon entering the building, [redacted] were told to remove their clothing completely. Young women came and measured chest expansion, height, weight, and then gave smallpox vaccinations.

ARMY review completed.

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- (4) [] instructed to go into the next room where men checked all the induction candidates for proper limb function, ruptures, hemorrhoids, tapped chests and backs, checked reflexes, listened to breathing with a stethoscope, used a small flashlight to examine eyes and ears, checked tongue and throat (without a depressor), and asked about disease history and any physical ailments. 25X1
- (5) [] upon completing the examination, were instructed to dress and wait in the same room. At 1800 hours a man in uniform gave them a two-hour political indoctrination lecture. [] it was intended to impress and warn induction candidates as to their future obligations and to inspire them to faithful service. 25X1
- (6) At 2000 hours the entire group was taken on foot to a club, location and other details unknown. Here they were given political literature to read, and at 2230 they saw a performance by some entertainers who sang and danced. They then received an orientation lecture on their future obligations. This lasted about ten minutes. After this, they were given their registration certificates and were told to return to their homes and await further orders. 25X1

b

c

- (1) In the Fall of 1948 [] 30 men report to the draft board in Glukhov. They all reported together. 25X1
- (2) Upon arriving, they were told to undress to the waist and report to a room where three young women and two men in uniform were seated. 25X1

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- (3) The group was then instructed to go into another room where their eyes were examined with a light. They were then required to read an eye chart. Color perception was tested with charts made up of colored dots that formed numbers and letters.
- (4) Next the men were instructed to go individually into another room. Here a man looked in their ears with a light. Then this same man placed a wooden, horn-like instrument against their chests and listened. A woman then tested their hearing by whispering numbers from across the room. After this, another woman checked their blood pressure.
- (5) The men, upon completing the examination, were told to dress and were then marched to a hospital one kilometer from the draft board. They were told to remove their clothes to the waist, and their chests were then examined with a fluoroscope. After completing this last examination, they were told to dress and to return home.

- (6) [redacted] the class of 1929 was called for service [redacted] reported to the draft board [redacted] 30 [redacted] inductees, for a physical examination. [redacted]

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- (7) The physical examination was the same as the previous examinations. After the fluoroscope examination at the hospital, the group was returned to the draft board building and assembled in two ranks in one of the rooms. All the inductees who had passed the physical examination were given alerts for induction. Three of the group of 30 were rejected (see subpar A 1 e). [redacted]

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d.

- e. Out of the 30-man group that reported [redacted] for the final induction examination in August 1949, three were rejected. One was cross-eyed; one was lame in the left leg, cause unknown; and the third had tuberculosis. [redacted] hear-sighted men and those who had serious illnesses or were physically handicapped were always [redacted]

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rejected.

f.

the category of the individual's service depended mainly upon the requirements at the time. Part of the class of 1928, called in 1949, was assigned to three years labor in the mines in lieu of military service. This included an undetermined number of females. The labor in the mines was compulsory and desertions were punished in the same manner as military desertions. Of the 1929 class, called in 1950, no one was assigned to labor service, and no women were called. Later on

50 village women were called for some type of duty in the Summer of 1951.

g.

the 1928 and 1929 year classes were called at the age of 20 instead of the legal age of 19 because there was a surplus of men in the 1926 and 1927 year classes.

h.

the 290th Gds. Rifle Regt. in Mauer Oehling, Soviet Zone of Austria

- i. The train to Austria consisted of 46 cars. Each of 40 of these cars carried 34 replacements with some of the cars having an NCO in charge. These NCO's were all infantrymen, selected from the various units which trained the replacements to make this one trip and return. the train carried approximately 1,380 men.

- (1) The men slept on double tiers of boards set up at either end of the cars with eight to nine men on each tier. There was no bedding issued to the troops and the men slept wrapped in their overcoats.
- (2) Up to the Austrian border, the men were fed canned food, bread, cheese, and tea with sugar. After the border was crossed, the kitchen cars served buckwheat mush and tea. This menu varied only once after the border was crossed, and then macaroni was served.
- (3) The rest of the train consisted of two kitchen cars, two ration cars, and two carrying some type of unknown supplies.

j. The route followed by the train was as follows:

City	Country	Remarks
Konotop	USSR	Departure point.
Kiev \angle N 50-27, E 30-32	USSR	- -
L'vov \angle N 46-41, E 42-20	USSR	- -
Chop \angle N 48-25, E 22-11	USSR	- -
Budapest \angle N 47-30, E 19-05	Hungary	All personnel changed trains.

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City	Country	Remarks
Bruck an der Leitha <u>N 48-01, E 16-46</u>	Austria	All personnel detrained and were taken to an unknown camp at night. Here specialists, such as drivers, were separated from the group. Some of these were assigned to an u/1 100-mm. AAA unit stationed in the camp. [redacted] this was a replacement depot for the Central Group Forces. 25X1 Remaining personnel left early in the morning.
St Poelten <u>N 48-12, E 15-38</u>	Austria	- -
Melk <u>N 48-13, E 15-19</u>	Austria	All but five cars were taken off the train.
Mauer Oehling	Austria	Last stop for five cars carrying 175 replacements. All were assigned to 290th Gds. Rifle Regt. 25X1

k.

l.

[redacted] members of the year class of 1929, were sent to a heavy artillery unit near the Black Sea. 25X1

[redacted] only Great Russians, Ukrainians, and White Russians were assigned to occupation duty. [redacted] one Tatar [redacted] 25X1
in Austria. All other nationalities, including Siberian tribes, were stationed in the Soviet Union. 25X1

B. Reserve Officers Called to Active Duty

[redacted] in 1951 all the reserve officers [redacted] were replaced by regular Army officers, most of whom were recent graduates of military schools. [redacted] 25X1
reserve officers being called to active duty

[redacted] were reserve officers of the year class of 1922, one of these men had been a member of the Signal Corps. [redacted]

C. Labor Service

1. [redacted] all labor call-ups came through the draft board and consisted of personnel found unfit for combat duty and soldiers who were being punished. 25X1

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2. [redacted] everyone who was liable for military duty was called in, regardless of whether or not he was a graduate of a factory work school. 25X1
3. Of the 150 men [redacted] who were legally liable for military service, 143 actually entered active duty. 25X1
[redacted] the only sons of ailing parents were sometimes, although rarely, deferred until marriage. 25X1
4. [redacted] in 1951 50 women [redacted] 25X1
[redacted] were called and told they must serve six months. The actual length of service was unknown.

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